

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 USIE-00 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 IO-10

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 /072 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:WGBOWDLER:MBB

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

ARA:WDROGERS

S/S:WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 048337

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:EC, PFOR

SUBJECT: GOE REACTION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S HOUSTON
SPEECH

REF: QUITO 1477 AND 1492

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. WE ARE SURPRISED AND DISTURBED BY THE GOE STATEMENT
ON THE SECRETARY'S HOUSTON SPEECH. THAT SPEECH WAS A
CALL TO ELEVATED, RESPONSIBLE DIALOGUE OF HEMISPHERIC
ISSUES IN WHICH THE SECRETARY MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE
TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S OBJECTION TO THE OPEC PROVISION
AS IT APPLIES TO ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA AND SUPPORT FOR ITS
MODIFICATION. THE GOE COMPLETELY OVERLOOKED THIS IN
REITERATING THE OLD CHARGES AGAINST THE TRADE ACT AND
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SHOWING ITS SELFCONSCIOUS PIQUE BY INTERPRETING A

GENERAL STATEMENT ABOUT LATIN AMERICAN ATTITUDES AS DIRECTED AGAINST ECUADOR.

2. YOU SHOULD SEEK EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THESE POINTS ORALLY TO FOREIGN MINISTER PAREDES:

A) HOUSTON SPEECH WAS DESIGNED AS CALL ON US AND LATIN AMERICANS TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE ON HIGH PLANE, RECOGNIZING OUR DIFFERENCES BUT FOCUSING ON WAYS TO REDUCE AND RESOLVE THEM AND GET ON WITH PRESSING TASK OF COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT.

B) SPEECH ATTEMPTED TO ANALYZE OBSTACLES TO CLOSER COOPERATION AND POINT OUT WHAT US NEEDS TO DO AS WELL AS WHAT WE ASK OF LATIN AMERICA. WE REGARD THIS TYPE OF FRANK ANALYSIS AS HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO BETTER PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING IN THIS COUNTRY AND LATIN AMERICA OF WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE THROUGH NEW DIALOGUE. IT WAS IN NO WAY INTENDED TO POINT AN ACCUSATORY FINGER AT ANY ONE OR GROUP OF COUNTRIES.

C) ON THE CONTRARY THE SPEECH SERVED AS A VEHICLE FOR THE SECRETARY TO EXPRESS PUBLICLY THIS ADMINISTRATION'S OBJECTION TO THE OPEC PROVISION OF THE TRADE ACT AS IT AFFECTS ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA AND SUPPORT FOR ITS MODIFICATION.

D) THIS BEING THE CASE THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE GOE CAME AS A PROFOUND SURPRISE FOR IT COMPLETELY OVERLOOKED THE OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH AND THE SPECIFIC EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT MODIFICATION OF THE OPEC PROVISION WHICH ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA FOUND SO OBJECTIONABLE.

E) WE ALSO WANT TO REGISTER OUR DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE GOE CHOSE TO REACT IN A PUBLICLY UNHELPFUL WAY WHEN OUR PURPOSE WAS TO OVERCOME THE DIFFERENCES WHICH HAVE ARISEN OVER THE TRADE ACT AND RETURN TO THE DIALOGUE WHEN SUCH URGENT MATTERS AWAIT DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY ALL THE GOVERNMENTS.

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F) PERHAPS THE GOE DID NOT HAVE THE FULL TEXT OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH WHEN IT ISSUED ITS COMMUNIQUE. WE BELIEVE THAT A CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF THE WHOLE SPEECH WOULD HAVE LED THE GOE TO A QUITE DIFFERENT REACTION FROM THAT CONTAINED IN THE COMMUNIQUE.

G) THE UNITED STATES WOULD WELCOME AN APPROPRIATE

CLARIFYING STATEMENT BY THE GOE OF THE SCOPE AND PURPOSE
OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH.

H) THE PURPOSE OF THE SPEECH OVERALL WAS TO BE HELPFUL,
AND TO POINT OUT AS CLEARLY AS POSSIBLE THAT WE OPPOSE
RESTRICTIONS SUCH AS THE OPEC INELIGIBILITY PROVISION.
THIS BECOMES VERY DIFFICULT WHEN EFFORTS TOWARD
CONCILIATION AND UNDERSTANDING LIKE THIS ARE MET WITH AN
OFFICIAL VIGOROUS REBUFF AND REJECTION. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE048337
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WGBOWDLER:MBB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750076-0136
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750383/aaaacwxs.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 QUITO 1477, 75 AND 1492
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOE REACTION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S HOUSTON SPEECH
TAGS: PFOR, EC, US, VE, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: QUITO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006